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UNHCR ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY FUNDS: REPORT FOR 1994-1995 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND BUDGET FOR 1996

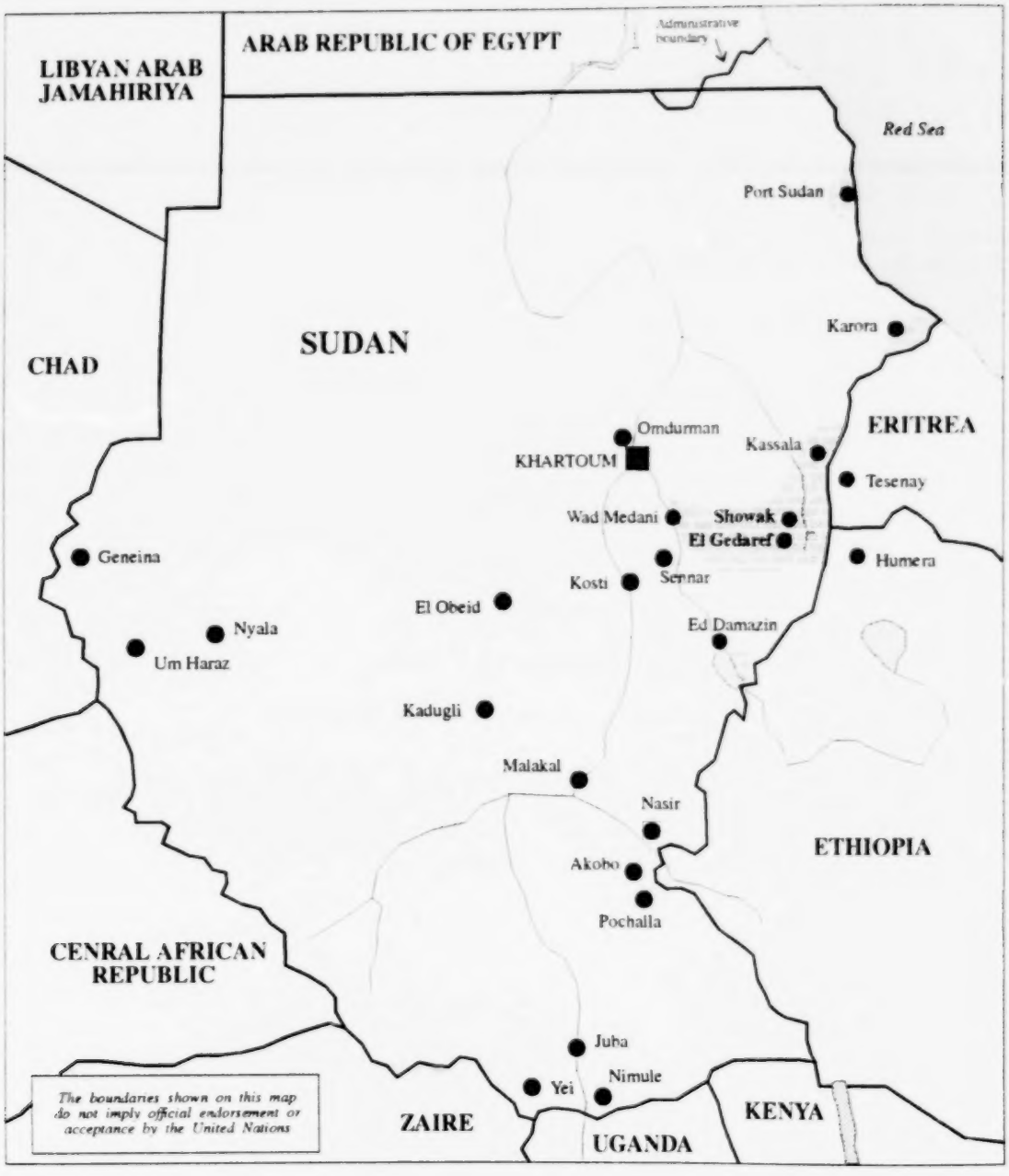
PART I. AFRICA

Section 19 - Sudan

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

GE.95-02303

SUDAN


LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
Administrative boundary
Red Sea
Port Sudan
Karora
SUDAN
CHAD
ERITREA
Omdurman
KHARTOUM
Kassala
Tesenay
Wad Medani
Showak
El Gedaref
Geneina
Kosti
Sennar
Humera
El Obeid
Ed Damazin
Nyala
Um Haraz
Kadugli
Malakal
Nasir
ETHIOPIA
Akobo
Pochalla
CENRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Juba
Yei
Nimule
KENYA
ZAIRE
UGANDA
The boundaries shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations
0
300
Km.
Capital
Town or village
Refugee area
Source: United Nations (1993)

I.19 SUDAN

1. Beneficiary population

1. At 31 December 1994, some 727,000 refugees were reported to be in the Sudan. They comprised 419,000 Eritreans, 160,600 Ethiopians, 141,400 Chadians, 3,766 Ugandans and 1,828 Zairians. Almost 50 per cent of the refugee population is assisted by UNHCR. The exact number of refugees residing in Sudan is difficult to assess because there has been no recent official census of the refugees. A UNHCR technical mission fielded to the Sudan in March 1995 recommended that a registration exercise be carried out in conjunction with the Sudanese Commissioner for Refugees, UNFPA and the Government Statistics Office. This registration exercise is to be undertaken during the last quarter of 1995.

2. Developments in 1994 and 1995

2. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Eritrea and UNHCR in April 1994 and another between the Government of Sudan and UNHCR in September 1994 providing the framework for voluntary repatriation of Eritrean refugees. The actual movement started in November 1994 under a pilot project designed for the voluntary repatriation of an estimated 25,000 Eritrean refugees from the Sudan. At the end of it, some 24,200 individuals were assisted to return.

3. The repatriation of refugees from Sudan to Ethiopia which started in 1993 continued in 1994. As of 31 December 1994, a total of 26,531 Ethiopian refugees has been assisted to return. By the end of May 1995, a further 2,999 individuals repatriated under UNHCR assistance, bringing the total number of returnees to 29,530.

4. An appeal for funding of the voluntary repatriation of Eritreans as well as Ethiopians from Sudan was launched in early 1995 under the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Sudan issued by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA). A separate UNHCR appeal followed in March for the repatriation and reintegration of Eritrean refugees from Sudan, providing for needs in both Eritrea and the Sudan.

5. In the course of 1994 and early 1995 discussions were initiated with both the Government of Sudan and the representatives of the Zairian Government on organized voluntary repatriation of Zairians from the Sudan. Similar *démarches* have been made with representatives of the Government of Uganda. While 172 Zairians were repatriated during the first quarter of 1995, some 655 Zairian refugees have already registered to repatriate in 1995, leaving approximately 1,000 Zairians in southern Sudan who may seek repatriation. An estimated 1,000 Ugandans in the Sudan have requested UNHCR to facilitate their voluntary return.

6. Meanwhile assistance to refugees remaining in the settlements and camps has continued. At the request of the Sudanese Government, UNHCR fielded an interdisciplinary mission in March 1995. A sectoral review undertaken by the mission recommended rehabilitation of infrastructure in the camps and in the refugee-affected areas.

7. Since March 1995, some 700 Somalis fleeing from strife in their country arrived in Khartoum requesting UNHCR's assistance. After discussion with the Government of Sudan, they were registered and transferred to an existing camp in eastern Sudan where basic assistance is being provided to them pending the identification of durable solutions.

3. 1996 country programmes

(a) Objectives

8. UNHCR's primary objective in the Sudan for 1996 will be to continue to focus on promotion and implementation of voluntary repatriation of Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees, leading to an eventual phasing down of the care and maintenanc programme.

9. As there is political stability and security in most regions of Ethiopia it is hoped that most of the Ethiopian refugees in the Sudan will opt to repatriat to their country of origin. The pace of the repatriation has, however, been hampered by constraints in reintegration assistance, resulting from a limited capacity to receive returnees. Hence the earlier goal of completing the Ethiopian repatriation by end of 1995 will have to be extended until the end of 1996.

10. Phase I of the operation under the Programme for Refugee Reintegration and Rehabilitation of Resettlement Areas in Eritrea (PROFERI) to assist repatriation of some 100,000 Eritrean refugees from Sudan will follow immediately after completion of the pilot project. A major concern of the Eritrean Government is the rehabilitation of the damaged infrastructure and other social service facilities in the urban centres. As a result, the Eritrean Government is placing priority on the integration of returnees in rural areas. Phase II of the operation, which foresees the repatriation of 110,000 Eritreans, will continue in 1996.

11. In 1995 and 1996, UNHCR in Sudan will continue the promotion of voluntary repatriation of Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees leading to the eventual closure of camps and handing over to the Government of infrastructure and other communal facilities. Eritreans and Ethiopians in need of assistance and not wishing to repatriate in the next two years would be transferred to camps where services will be consolidated.

(b) Proposed budgets for 1996

(i) General Programmes

12. **Care and maintenance**: In view of the slow pace of voluntary repatriation, linked to absorption capacity in the country of origin, care and maintenance assistance will continue in 1996 in order to provide for the basic needs of the refugees pending repatriation. A major portion of the appropriation will be utilized for infrastructure improvement and environmental activities, as recommended by the inter-disciplinary mission, as well as to cover for implementing partner staff retrenchment foreseen due to consolidation/closure of camps and services.

13. The sectoral breakdown of the initial and revised 1995 care and maintenance allocations and the initial 1996 allocation are as follows (in dollars):

Sector	Initial 1995	Revised 1995	Initial 1996
Transport	1,300,000	1,132,833	1,187,490
Water	78,956	586,320	690,000
Sanitation	44,345	158,638	143,255
Health	805,820	1,455,117	1,506,574
Shelter	46,520	42,346	160,000
Community services	0	897	941
Education	37,629	255,949	254,276
Crop production	0	5,269	25,317
Livestock	0	24,679	30,000
Forestry	0	186,438	396,215
Agency op. support	27,030	297,914	410,232
Total	2,340,300	4,146,400	4,804,300

14. **Local settlement**: The local settlement assistance will continue in 1996 with adjustments following repatriation to Eritrea and Ethiopia. Consolidation of services/camps will take place depending on the pace of the repatriation operation.

15. **Voluntary repatriation**: It is expected that the repatriation of Zairian and Ugandan refugees will continue during 1996 and that up to 2,000 refugees may request UNHCR assistance to return to their home countries. Due to the high cost of air transport to final destination points as well as the transit costs in Kinshasa, the 1996 implementation rate will be monitored closely and may have to be adjusted at a later stage depending on the number of individuals actually repatriated.

16. Due to increased prospects for repatriation of Eritreans and Ethiopians, the need for resettlement has reduced. Nevertheless a small number of vulnerable groups, security cases and family reunification cases will continue to be assisted for resettlement

(ii) Special Programmes

17. **Horn of Africa**: Voluntary repatriation remains the most viable solution for the Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees in the Sudan. The 1996 proposal foresees the repatriation of some 25,000 Ethiopians, but this will depend on the absorption capacity in Ethiopia. The 1996 proposal also includes repatriation assistance to some 110,000 Eritrean refugees. The implementation of the Eritrean repatriation will also depend on the progress of PROFERI in Eritrea in rehabilitating the damaged infrastructure and creating other service facilities to enhance the capacity for the reintegration of the returnees.

18. **DAFI**: Under the German Albert Einstein Refugee Academic Initiative (DAFI) programme, 41 students have been assisted to further their university education in the Sudan. The majority of the beneficiaries are Somalis and Eritreans, out of whom 34 per cent are women. Three students graduated in 1994 an two are expected to graduate in 1995. The number of students approaching UNHCR fo educational assistance has been growing constantly. However, due to priorities elsewhere, the last award of DAFI scholarships will be in 1995. From 1996 onwards the DAFI programme will cater only to the ongoing beneficiaries. To compensate fo the effects of zero intake in Sudan as from 1996 and to reorient the programme in favour of repatriation, the possibilities of establishing a DAFI project in Eritre are being explored. The overall objective would be to facilitate the integration of qualified returnee students in the tertiary education system of Eritrea.

19. **Other trust funds**: Out of the funds provided by the Government of German over a two-year period (1994-1995) towards reafforestation projects in the eastern and western regions, the carry over balance will be utilized for the related activities during 1995 and 1996. These projects are implemented by the Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and the Sudanese Forestry Nationa Council.

(c) Implementing partners

20. The Commissioner for Refugees (COR) will continue to be UNHCR's main implementing partner. COR implements most of the activities through bilateral sub-agreements and/or through tripartite agreements with 13 international and loca non-governmental organizations (NGOs). NGOs implementing both preventive and curative health care are: Human Appeal, Islamic African Relief Agency, Islamic Dav Organization (ISDAWA), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies/Sudanese Red Crescent (IFRC/SRC), Munazamat El Rahma (ALRAHMA), Christia Outreach, Lalmba, Ockenden Venture and SudanAid.

21. Educational and literacy projects are implemented by COR, the Young Men' Christian Association (YMCA), Comboni School, Sudan Open Learning Unit and the

Vocational Training Centre. Community Development projects are implemented by COR, Ockenden Venture and Christian Outreach. The Nile Society for Ethiopian Refugees provides supplementary assistance to unaccompanied minors/children who find themselves in an emergency situation in Khartoum. Apart from UNHCR operational partners, some other organizations are implementing projects in the refugee camps. The Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) runs Maternal and Child Health programmes and special feeding programmes in nine settlements without UNHCR funding. Similarly, YMCA, You and Me (an Overseas Development Agency-funded NGO) are implementing feeding and health programmes. Save the Children-USA implements an income-generation project in Karkora. WFP is responsible for the supply of food for general ration and supplementary feeding of the refugees. UNHCR cooperates with WHO and the Ministry of Health in the AIDS project.

(d) Programme Delivery and Administrative Support Costs

22. Variations due to changes in budget parameters are not discussed in the subsequent analysis (Overview of UNHCR Activities, Part I (A/AC.96/845) refers).

(i) 1994 expenditure (all sources of funds)

23. The 1994 expenditure was not significantly different from initial estimates.

(ii) Revised 1995 requirements (all sources of funds)

24. To support both the Eritrean and Ethiopian repatriation operations, three Professional and seven General Service posts, which were not foreseen in the initial 1995 estimates, were created. In addition, temporary assistance provision is made for locally recruited personnel in support of the ongoing Ethiopian voluntary repatriation operation. The revised 1995 requirements also include provisions for the replacement of equipment as well as vehicles that have been operational for more than five years and are uneconomical to maintain.

(iii) Initial 1996 requirements (all sources of funds)

25. The 1996 requirements are similar to the revised 1995 estimate. As the repatriation operation in the Sudan is expected to continue in 1996, it is proposed to maintain the same staffing levels as in 1995. However, a review of the staffing levels will be done in the course of 1996 depending on the pace of the repatriation operation.

26. Most of the vehicles in the Sudan have been used for more than five years and need replacing due to road conditions. Similarly the office furniture in the Showak Sub-Office, procured between 1985 and 1988, has deteriorated considerably. Provision has been made in the 1996 estimate for the replacement of vehicles, office equipment and furniture that could not be accommodated in 1995.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN THE SUDAN

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1994	1995		1996	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1994 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
2,321.9	2,340.3	4,146.4	CARE AND MAINTENANCE	4,804.3
176.7	70.4	640.8	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	67.4
4,831.0 a/	4,348.3	2,478.9	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	2,179.7
112.4 b/	15.2	42.8	RESETTLEMENT	33.7
3,258.4	2,769.2	3,700.1	PROGRAMME DELIVERY See Overview Tables (Part II)	3,664.8
10,700.4	9,543.4	11,009.0	SUB-TOTAL OPERATIONS	10,749.9
754.1	618.1	730.9	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT See Overview Tables (Part II)	723.0
11,454.5	10,161.5	11,739.9	TOTAL (1)	11,472.9
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
50.5	168.8	–	EDUCATION ACCOUNT	–
1,770.1	–	2,875.2	HORN OF AFRICA	3,282.2
550.5	290.3	386.4	PROGRAMME DELIVERY See Overview Tables (Part II)	383.2
97.5	85.5	129.6	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT See Overview Tables (Part II)	128.6
1,039.3	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS Various assistance	–
153.8	188.1	102.0	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT Junior Professional Officer See Overview Tables (Part II)	102.0
3,711.7	732.7	3,493.2	TOTAL (2)	3,896.0
15,166.2	10,894.2	15,233.1	GRAND TOTAL (1+2)	15,368.9

a/ of which US$ 4,378 incurred against Other Programmes
b/ of which US$ 50,762 incurred against Other Programmes